

Message Text

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46

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-07 ACDA-10 OMB-01 NRC-07

OES-06 CEQ-01 EPA-04 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /105 W

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R 061415Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8654

INFO COMSUBREFITRAGRU LA MADDALENA

COMSUBLANT NORFOLK VA

CTF SIX THREE

COMSUBGRU EIGHT

CNO WASHDC

CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

COMNAVSEASYS COM WASHDC

COMSIXTHFLT

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

UNCLAS ROME 10817

CNO FOR OP-61; COMNAVSEASYS COM FOR CODE-08,

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TAGS: MARR MNUC IT

SUBJ: ITALIAN LACK OF CONTROL OVER LA MADDALENA SSN'S
CRITICIZED

SUMMARY.LEFT-LEANING AND INFLUENTIAL CORRIERE DELLA SERA/
PUBLISHED ARTICLE JULY 1 BY GIANFRANCO AMENDOLA JUDGE,
CRITICIZING ITALY'S INABILITY TO APPLY LEGISLATED CONTROL
STANDARDS TO US NUCLEAR SUBMARINES AT LA MADDALENA BECAUSE
OF MILITARY SECURITY MEASURES.
END SUMMARY.

1. ARTICLE OPENS WITH MENTION OF THREE BABIES HAVING DIED
AT LA MADDALEN ABECUSE CRANIAL BONE STRUCTURE FAILED TO FUSE.
IT CONTINUES AS FOLLOWS:BEGIN TEXT/.WHILE IT IS PROBABLE THERE
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NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE DEATHS OF INFANTS AND AMERICAN

MILITARY BASE STRIKING THING IS THAT ITALIAN AUTHORITIES CANNOT RULE OUT SUCH CONNECTION WITH CERTAINTY. THIS MEANS THAT SINCE 1972 WHEN AMERICAN BASE WAS IMPOSED ON ITALY BY ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT, ITALIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT BEEN IN POSITION TO CONTROL SITUATION AND GIVE COUNTRY NECESSARY SECURITY GUARANTEES. THIS EMERGED CLEARLY IN CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY ENVIRONMENT GROUP (GRUPPO AMBIENTE) IN ROME 1ST SEPTEMBER IN WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF SUPERIOR HEALTH INSTITUTE AND NATIONAL NUCLEAR ENERGY CENTER REVEALED ANOMALOUS SITUATION OF CONTROLS AND GUARANTEES RESULTING FROM MILITARY SECURITY. IN 1972 THE PRESIDENT OF THE LATTER SAID BEFORE PARLIAMENT "IT IS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT THAT WE DO NOT KNOW CHARACTERISTICS AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF NUCLEAR MILITARY SHIPS NOR DETAILS OF OPERATIONS THAT THEY MUST CARRY OUT IN ITALIAN PORTS."

THIS IS STILL TRUE. WITHOUT SUCH KNOWLEDGE TO TALK OF SECURITY IS HAZARDOUS. IT IS TRUE THAT INTERNATIONAL AND ITALIAN STANDARDS RELATIVE TO PROTECTION OF THE POPULATION AGAINST RADIATION IS BASED SPECIFICALLY ON COMPLETE INFORMATION ABOUT NUCLEAR REACTORS AND THEIR OPERATIONS. THIS CONCERNS IN THE FIRST PLACE SECURITY ANALYSIS OF REACTORS, INSPECTION OF INSTALLATION AND PROVISION OF EMERGENCY PLAN FOR NEARBY POPULATION. ALL THINGS WHICH CONSTITUTE THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR LEGISLATION AGAINST RADIOACTIVE POLLUTION BUT WHICH HOWEVER, AT LA MADDALENA CANNOT BE CARRIED OUT BECAUSE OF MILITARY SECRETS. AT THIS POINT IT IS CLEAR NO ONE CAN TALK ABOUT SECURITY. IF IN FACT LEGISLATORS HAVE PUBLISHED COMPLETE AND PRECISE STANDARDS FOR PROTECTION OF POPULATIONS FROM GRAVE RISKS OF RADIOACTIVITY AND IF THESE STANDARDS ARE NOT TOTALLY APPLIED IN EVERY CASE WHERE THERE EXISTS THIS RISK IT IS THE SAME LAW WHICH IMPOSES OBLIGATION TO ISSUE JUDGMENT OF DANGER.

UNLESS SOMEONE DOES NOT WISH TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY OF STATING THAT GOOD PART OF PRESENT STANDARDS FOR PROTECTION OF POPULATION FROM RADIOACTIVITY ARE SUPERFLUOUS AND USELESS. BEFORE THESE GRAVE LAPSES THE RESULTS OF VARIOUS TESTS CARRIED OUT AT LA MADDALENA TO MEASURE CONCENTRATION OF RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND FROM WHICH IT IS STATED THEY ARE NEGATIVE INsofar AS THEY ARE BELOW SECURITY LIMITS SEEM TO BE OF LITTLE SIGNIFICANCE. IN FACT, APART FROM QUESTION ABOUT THESE SECURITY LIMITS, SUCH MEASURES DEMONSTRATE THAT AT MINIMUM THERE IS CERTAIN RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION AND AT THE MOST

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THEY GIVE A RELATIVE DEGREE OF TRANQUILITY EXPOST FACTO ON WHAT HAS ALREADY HAPPENED. BUT THEY ABSOLUTELY DO NOT SERVE, FOR EXAMPLE, TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS OR SABOTAGE NOR DO THEY SERVE TO PROTECT THE POPULATION FROM A POSSIBLE RELEASE OF RADIOACTIVITY SHOULD ONE TAKE PLACE. IF ONE CONSIDERS THAT AT LA MADDALENA THERE IS STILL INCOMPLETE INFORMATION ON MARINE CURRENTS, EATING HABITS OF POPULATION AND PATTERNS OF SICKNESS AND DEATH; IF ONE CONSIDERS FINALLY THAT AT LA MADDALENA

RECENTLY EVEN FEW CONTROLS THAT ARE POSSIBLE WERE SUSPENDED
BECAUSE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REGION AND THE GOVERNMENT
ON WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM COULD NOT BE REACHED.WHATEVER
STATEMENT, EVEN EVEN IF IT IS MADE IN GOOD FAITH,INDICATING
THAT THERE IS NO RISK, APPEARS EVEN GRAVER -MORE IRRESPONSIBLE .
A LAST OBSERVATION.ARTICLE 12 OF THE LAW 31-12-1962, 1860
FOR THE PROTECTION OF POPULATION AGAINST IONIZING RADIATION
CALLS FOR A PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ISSUED ON INITIATIVE OF MINISTRY
FOR MERCHANT MARINE IN CONJUNCTION WITH MINISTRY OF DEFENSE
AND MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY WITH CLEARANCE OF NATIONAL CENTER FOR
NUCLEAR ENERGY ESTABLISHING THE TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
STANDARDS RELATIVE TO NAVIGATION OF NUCLEAR POWERED VESSELS.
FOURTEEN YEARS HAVE PASSED BUT THESE STANDARDS HAVE NEVER
BEEN ISSUED.END TEXT.

2. AMENDOLA HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN CRITICIZING ITALIAN LACK
OF CONTROL OVER US NUCLEAR WARSHIPS.VOLPE

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